(5) All correspondence between the Government and the people and between the heads of departments should be in Malayalam.

(6) The proceedings in civil courts should be in Malayalam. While the plaints, written statements, depositions were in general in Malayalam, there was no reason why the judgments alone should be in English. Further as all the laws and the arguments of the vakils were in English, the ordinary ryots were not able to understand them.

The duty of selecting text-books for the several classes was vested in committees, although their final approval was with the Government. The books selected should be those intended for increasing the knowledge and the moral standard of the pupils. Some text-books were available for sale only three or four months after the re-opening of the schools and even then only in the offices of the Assistant Inspectors of Schools. The printing of text-books should be entrusted to private presses.

The administration and control of girls' schools were vested in a person who had no knowledge of the vernaculars of the State. This was regrettable, especially when qualified women were available for appointment as controlling and inspecting officers.

DEWAN'S REPLY: In regard to the use of Malayalam Mr. Velayudhan Pillai, I think it will be wise for me to refer you to the Dewan's statement made last year. He said that members should realise that Government recognised the need for the vernaculars being admitted more and more in official use. Any suggestion made for the development of Malayalam will be considered and accepted as far as possible. I do not think it can be said that the attitude of Government towards the Malayalam language is one of indifference. Practically, every publication which is not entirely in Malayalam is being published in Malayalam, English and Tamil. I do not think I can add, at the moment, to what the Dewan said last year.

132. Certain general needs of the State.

MR. V. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod taluk*) first spoke about the need for changing the educational system. This question had been mooted by several other members also. Eminent educationists have condemned the existing system as too narrow. The English education in India was originally intended to produce men for employment and did not aim at their mental or moral development. The result was that the Indian universities produced a large number of men who were fit only for employment and so long as this could not be found for all, the number of the educated unemployed was on the increase. The time had come for changing the educational system. The following were the member's suggestions in this respect —

(1) Education should be vocational and not literary. After completing his education, a man should be able to take to any profession, say as an agriculturist, or carpenter, or weaver, etc.

(2) Greater care should be bestowed on the selection of text-books. The authors generally spent more time in attempting to get their books prescribed as texts than on their books themselves. They exerted their

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influence on the authorities competent to prescribe the books. These methods tended to degenerate the standard of books. Prescribing too many books was another evil. To remove these defects, a committee with seventy-five per cent. of its members selected from among teachers of vernacular and English schools should be appointed for the purpose of selecting text-books. The names of the members of the committee should be kept as a secret while their membership lasted.

(3) More attention should be paid to the physical development of the pupils. The Unemployment Committee Report stated that the children were under-fed and therefore were not able to do the necessary physical exercise and consequently, they were not able to do heavy work. The syllabuses should be revised with due regard to leisure and ease.

(4) The salaries of English and vernacular school teachers needed revision. There was much disparity between the pay of the head-masters and teachers of the two classes of schools while the work was similar. The pay of the vernacular school teachers should be enhanced.

(5) The existing Inspecting Officers were not competent to inspect all the items of work in a school. Indian music, manual training, spinning, drawing, etc., were subjects in which all Inspecting Officers were not qualified. Either officers qualified in these subjects should alone be appointed as Inspecting Officers or the work of the teachers of these subjects should be inspected by only qualified persons.

(6) The same kind of education should not be imparted to boys and girls alike. According to the existing system, there was not much difference, with the result that there was keen competition between men and women in the same field of work. The syllabuses should be modified and made separate for boys and girls.

(7) The present day education thoroughly ignored the economic condition of the people. An educated youth had a high notion of himself and a contempt for his humble dwelling, equipment and resources. Disappointment prevailed when these could not be improved.

A commission on education should be appointed to enquire into the existing system of education and suggest measures for its reform.

The Provident Fund scheme was not being made use of by all teachers of grant-in-aid schools either due to the indifference of the teachers or the inconvenience of the Government who could not be expected to spend more money on education. A mutual benefit fund scheme would be useful and would not involve any cost to the Government. Such a fund was to be instituted but it applied to teachers of departmental schools only. The member requested that the scheme should include teachers of aided schools also, as it was they who were really in need of it.

Teachers of aided schools should be appointed as teachers in departmental schools. This system would enable the Government to

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secure the services of experienced teachers and the teachers also would have the consolation of receiving a pension at the end of their career.

The Education Bureau in Trivandrum was not of much use to the teachers. The scope of the Public Libray should therefore be extended by the starting of circulating libraries under its control as is done in Baroda.

The place of the Professor of Sanskrit and Dravidian Languages in the Arts College was vacant for a long time. A duly qualified person should be appointed in the vacancy.

Grant-in-aid *vaidyans* were competent to treat grown-up persons and issue medical certificates while they were not allowed to examine school children. This was an anomaly. They might be authorised to examine school children and issue age and health certificates. This was necessary because allopathic doctors were not available everywhere.

Besides local salt produced in the salt factories, a large quantity of foreign salt was being imported for local consumption. Measures should be taken to see that sufficient quantity of salt was produced in the State to meet local demand.

The Kalkulam *cum* Vilavankod constituency was the biggest among the Legislative Council constituencies in area, population and voting strength. It should therefore be bifurcated. The bifurcation would also avoid communal tension between Malayalees and Tamilians at the time of election.

The member next suggested that the appointments in public service should be distributed among the taluks.

The salaries of high officers of the State should be reduced. The Retrenchment Committee was already at this work. The reduction should be effected without delay.

Lastly, the member urged the need for repealing the Newspapers Regulation. Every offence relating to the publication of news could be brought under one or other of the Sections of the Penal Code. The Regulation in question was a superfluity and should be repealed.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Your very interesting suggestions, Mr. Narayana Pillai, for improving the educational system, will, I hope, be considered by the Reforms Committee which is intended to be formed very soon.

Your suggestion about the Text-Book Committee will also be considered when we take up the question of revising the method of choice and issue of text-books.

The introduction of the Mutual Benefit Fund Scheme is under consideration.

The principle that a certain percentage of the vacancies in departmental schools should be filled from the staff of aided schools, has been accepted by Government, and the Director reports that effect is being given to it.

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Circulating libraries must wait till more money is available.

The appointment, you referred to, in the College of Arts, is under consideration.

At the moment, it is not considered right that grant-in-aid *vaidyans* should be authorised to issue health certificates. But your suggestion that they should be asked to examine school children will receive consideration.

Steps to improve the salt factories are being considered.

The bifurcation of the Kalkulam *cum* Vilavankod constituency will be considered when the redistribution and regrouping of constituencies come up.

Your suggestion about the territorial distribution of appointments in public service will be put before the Recruitment Committee.

As you remarked, the Retrenchment Committee is considering the question of reducing salaries.

Two motions to repeal the Newspapers Regulation came up in the Legislative Council and both were lost.

The Assembly rose for the day at 5-12 P. M.

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